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**John Holly**  
**Director of Logistics**  
**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**  
**Gulf Region Division, Baghdad, Iraq**

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Col John Joseph Holly USMC (RET) was born on December 14th, 1946 in Corning, New York. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1968 and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant of Marines. Upon completion of The Basic School, he received his first assignment as Platoon Commander, 1st Force Reconnaissance Battalion from 1968 to 1969. Between 1969 and 1970, he was assigned as the Company S-3 Officer, Executive Officer and Company Commander, while serving in the Republic of Vietnam.

After promotion to 1st Lieutenant in 1970, Col Holly transferred to Headquarters Marine Corps where he held the position of Officer in Charge of Discharge within the Separation and Retirement section. In 1972 he was promoted to Captain and attended the Amphibious Warfare School and soon afterward, the Nuclear

Weapons Employment School. From 1973 to 1974 he was assigned as a United Nations Observer in Palestine.

Upon completion of that tour, Col Holly was transferred to the 2nd Marine Division, where he was assigned as the Commanding Officer of India Company, 3rd Battalion 6th Marines, a command he held until 1975. Thereafter he was assigned to 2nd Medical Battalion, 2nd Force Service Support Group and held the position of Senior Marine of the Battalion until his transfer in 1976. Between 1976 and 1978 he was the Executive/Commanding Officer of Landing Support Unit 32. Upon promotion to Major in 1978, he was chosen to be an Instructor at the Amphibious Warfare School. This tour was followed by formal school at the Naval War College in 1982. Upon graduation, he was transferred to the Requirement and Programs section at Headquarters Marine Corps, and held the position of Logistic Budget Validation Officer from 1982 to 1985. While holding this position, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1984.

Col Holly was transferred to the 1st Force Service Support Group and was assigned as the Combat Service Support Operations Officer. In 1987 he was selected to command the 1st Landing Support Battalion. The next year, he was promoted to the rank of Colonel and subsequently became the Commanding Officer of Brigade Service Support Group 5 and Brigade Service Support Group 9. In 1990, he then was assigned as the G-3 Operations Officer for 1st Force Service Support Group, which featured duty during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

In 1993, Col Holly was then transferred to the Headquarters of the Commander in Chief, Pacific and became the J-35 Director of Exercises, a position he held until 1996. He then served as the Military Assistant to the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps until 1997. Upon completion of this assignment, he was assigned to be a member of the National Defense Panel Staff. Col Holly retired in 1998 with 30 years in the United States Marine Corps.

Following his retirement from the Marine Corps, Col Holly worked as a Program Engineer for Noesis Incorporated. From November 1998 to October 2003 he served as the companies West Coast Program Manager. During that time he evaluated and conducted operational assessments for various advanced concept Technology Demonstrations (ACTDs) and the Office of Naval Research (ONR) projects that required strong oversight as well as anticipatory and strategic planning.